AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

accepting first query data ~~from~~ representing one or more spoken instance of a query in a first set of audio signals;

processing the first query data including determining a representation of the query that defines multiple sequences of subword units each representing the query;

accepting second speech data representing unknown speech in a second audio signal; and

locating putative instances of the query in ~~input~~ the second speech data ~~from an audio signal~~ using the determined representation of the query.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein processing the query data includes applying a computer-implemented speech recognition algorithm to the query data.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the subword units include linguistic units.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein locating the putative instances includes applying a computer-implemented word spotting algorithm configured using the determined representation of the query.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 further comprising selecting processing parameter values of the speech recognition algorithm for application to the query data according to characteristics of the word spotting algorithm.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the selecting of the processing parameter values of the speech recognition algorithm includes optimizing said parameters according to an accuracy of the word spotting algorithm.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the selecting of the processing parameter values of the speech recognition algorithm includes selecting values for parameters including one or more of an insertion factor, a recognition search beam width, a recognition grammar factor, and a number of recognition hypotheses.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining the representation of the query includes determining a network of the subword units.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the multiple sequences of subword units correspond to different paths through the network.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein determining the representation of the query includes determining an n-best list of recognition results.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein each of the multiple sequences of subword units corresponds to a different one in the n-best list of recognition results.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein accepting the first query data includes accepting first audio data representing the spoken utterances of the query spoken by a user, and processing the first audio data to form the first query data.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim1 wherein accepting the first query data includes accepting a selection by a user of portions of stored data from ~~a previously accepted~~ the first set of audio signals, and processing the portions of the stored data to form the first query data.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising, prior to accepting the selection by the user, processing the ~~previously accepted~~ first set of audio signals according to a first computer-implemented speech recognition algorithm to produce the stored data.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the first speech recognition algorithm produces data related to presence of the subword units at different times in the first set of audio signals.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein processing the query data includes applying a second speech recognition algorithm to the query data.

17. (Currently amended) Software stored on a computer-readable medium comprising instructions for causing a processing system to:

accept first query data ~~from~~ representing one or more spoken instance of a query in a first set of audio signals;

process the query first data including determining a representation of the query that defines multiple sequences of subword units each representing the query;

accept second speech data representing unknown speech in a second audio signal; and

locate putative instances of the query in ~~input~~ the second speech data ~~from an audio signal~~ using the determined representation of the query.

18. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a speech recognizer for processing first query data ~~from~~ representing one or more spoken instances of a query in a first set of audio signals;

a data storage for receiving a data representation of the query from the speech recognizer, the data representation defining multiple sequences of subword units representing the query;

a word spotter configured to use the data representation of the query to locate putative instances of the query in ~~input~~ second speech data representing unknown speech ~~from an~~ in a second audio signal.